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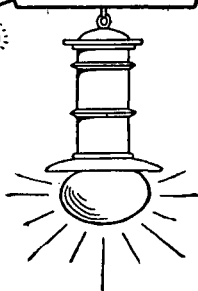
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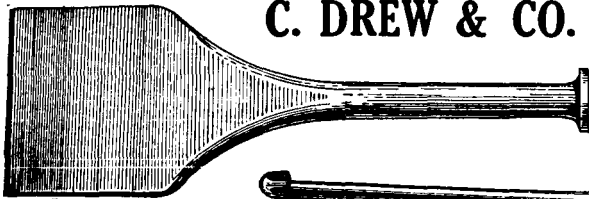


Fig. 132

Fig. 133

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506 Machinists' Bldg., Washington, D. C.

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No. 11

FACTS FOR WORKERS

Strikes and Economics

THE open shop drive and the wage-cutting campaign have now received their final defeat. It is safe to say that there will now be no further wage reductions on any large scale for some time to come, and that there will be no further attempts to stampede employers into the open shop. That chapter in the history of American labor is closed.

The defeat of the great anti-union drive was brought about by a combination of economic circumstance and aggressive labor union action which was impossible for the employers to withstand. The history of the past few years throws the spotlight on the interplay of industrial conditions and the success or failure of union policy and tactics.

For the past four or five months economic forces entirely beyond the control of either capital or labor have increasingly favored labor.

Along in March and April business began to pick up. With the increase in production came a decrease in unemployment. During the winter there was a universal labor surplus. Now there is actually a labor shortage in many sections and trades. That means competition between employers for labor, which means higher wages and, in turn, no army of the unemployed with which to break a strike. Along with increasing production and general recovery in business has also come an increasing necessity to keep the wheels of industry moving.

The mere blind play of economic circumstance had, last spring, perceptibly showed up the anti-union drive. But it was the three great strikes of the past summer that have dealt the final blow. The miners, the textile workers and the railroad shopmen have been the shock troops of American labor. They have turned the battle against unionism from a partial victory to a final and complete defeat.

Entirely apart from the gains or losses of individual unions in the three big strikes their cumulative effect on the policy of employers throughout the country has been incalculable. They have emphasized and dramatized the strengthened position of labor as a mile of statistics could never do.

They have retarded the return to business prosperity sufficiently to intensify the necessity for maximum production. They have stiffened the morale of organized labor in every industry and trade. They have made the desires of the workers and the demands of their unions leading factors in the business and financial world.

But even in their success each of the three big strikes has largely been determined by economic conditions. The strength of the coal miners' resistance was measured by the size of the coal reserve supply on April 1, by the number of unfilled orders in the steel mills, by the universal demand for increasing factory production, and by delays in the New York subways. It was the bumper harvest and fruit crop which started the rail strike settlements going and the large number of unemployed in the great industrial centers of the east that has enabled the die-hard roads to hold out as they have. The slump in the textile business brought on the textile strike. Returning activity in the industry and competition with mills operating where wages were not cut is helping the mill workers to win.

The Future for Labor

Economic conditions are now ripe for an aggressive advance by organized labor.

For the past two years the employing interests have taken every advantage of economic conditions both to beat down the workers' standard of living and to disrupt their organizations.

They have used the rapid decline in the cost of living to compel and to justify sweeping reductions in wages. They have used the fear of unemployment to dragoon the workers into line. They have used the army of the unemployed, which probably reached the 4,000,000 mark last December, to recruit strikebreakers when the workers dared openly to resist. They used the vast financial resources of accumulated war-time profits as insurance against strikes. They put their surplus into the war chest of organizations publicly committed to the elimination of labor unionism from our industrial life.

Now all this is at an end. Those very economic forces which the employers used

against labor can now be used by labor against the employers. The opportunity is at hand for labor to regain the ground it lost and to advance to new positions on the front of human betterment.

The cost of living has ceased its decline. What movement exists is upward. No worker need fear the loss of his job. Men are no longer hunting jobs. Jobs are hunting men. There is no army of the jobless from which to draw recruits. The depression has been a drain on the war chest of the employers.

These are not the only economic forces that are working labor's way. Business is definitely on the make. Every week increases the pressure of competition and of the movement of business recovery toward continuous and uninterrupted production. The temporary setback of the strikes merely serves to aggravate the tension. Increasing profits from increased production enhance the employer's ability to pay adequate scales. The trend of wages has already swung upward. Employers in every section and trade have seen the writing on the wall and have already submitted to increased compensation. The United States Steel Corporation has set a precedent which is hard for an employer to flout.

Now is the time for labor to act. But how long it will be time is difficult to foretell.

The increase of prices and the general prosperity of the moment will probably give way before long to another period of decline. After every war there has been a long period of "deflation." But there have been spasmodic and temporary recoveries. Economic history, like all history, repeats itself. The present recovery is probably but a temporary recovery. Prices, living costs, industrial activity are likely to seek lower levels.

There is a definite movement among employers, now taking shape, to get what small advantage they can from the present situation. They plan to induce labor to sign agreements providing for future wage adjustments based solely on changes in the cost of living. Even though this may involve a temporary wage increase, they maintain, it will bind labor later to submit to decreases.

Apart from economic theory, the experience of the last three years has convinced most labor unions of the dangers of this kind of a bargain. Both the past and the future stand as warnings against them.

Free of such handicaps and confident of its power, labor stands today on the pathway of achievement.

The Trend of Wages

During the last two months the downward movement of wages, which set in with the beginning of the business depression in early 1921 and which was aided and abetted by the anti-union drive of the employing interests, has now definitely ceased and an upward movement begun.

All recent reports on changes in wage scales show that increases are now the order of the day. During the past month, in fact, cases of wage cuts have almost completely ceased and a rapidly growing number of increases have been recorded.

The action of the United States Steel Corporation in voluntarily raising wages of steel mill labor 20 per cent, effective September 1, was merely a dramatic illustration of a process that is now going on in practically every industry.

This fact is borne out in figures published by the National Industrial Conference Board, a private research agency devoted to the interests of the employers. This board keeps a monthly record of wage changes reported in various industries throughout the country. The relative number of wage increases and decreases so reported gives a reliable index of the wage trend.

Even as late as the period from April 15 to May 15 the number of decreases was larger than the number of increases. Since then, however, the increases have been more numerous than the decreases. During the last monthly period—from August 15 to September 15—there were 119 instances of increases and only 4 of decreases.

Employment Conditions

The pendulum of employment has swung with astonishing rapidity from surplus to shortage. During the severe unemployment of last winter anyone who predicted a severe labor shortage this summer would have been laughed at. And yet that is precisely what has occurred. It has occurred, moreover, in spite of the fact that industry is not yet back to normal production after the severe depression of last year. Many trades have not yet reached the 1913 level of activity and yet even in these lines, jobs are hunting men.

There are two main causes for the present situation. First, the restriction of immigration and, second, the record-breaking boom in building operations and automobile manufacturing.

That the immigration laws are now having their effect on the labor supply is universally admitted. It is indicated by the fact that it is the common and unskilled labor in which the shortage is most acute. It is safe to predict that the employing interests will soon inaugurate a campaign to break down the immigration limitations and again allow the supply of common labor to be reinforced from underpaid and starving Europe.

The employment outlook for the winter is exceedingly favorable for labor. There is no doubt whatever that there will be a very general labor shortage throughout the country. The temporary setback to industrial activity caused by the coal and rail strikes and the usual late summer lull in business will soon be turned into a period of increasing productivity which will exceed that of the spring and early summer.

The harvesting season is drawing to a close in Minnesota, North Dakota and Mon-

tana. This will throw a large number of men out of work. Reports from these States indicate, however, that they have a sufficient demand for labor to completely absorb the surplus.

Reports compiled by the employment service of the Department of Labor covering all parts of the United States show a decline in the number of men at work during August. The decline is negligible, however—only 1,381 out of 1,600,000 workers. If it had not been for the strikes the figures would undoubtedly have shown an increase.

The following industries have shown marked changes in employment during August:

Metal Mining

Definite shortage of labor is reported in Alabama, Minnesota, the Joplin-Miami district, Arizona, Colorado, Montana, Idaho, Nevada and California. In Michigan the Calumet and Hecla has enough men. Other companies are short handed.

Textiles

The labor shortage in the textile industry is causing considerable alarm among the employers. The Philadelphia Textile Manufacturers Association in a recent confidential letter to its members stated that "a general survey of the situation leads us to believe that a serious shortage of skilled workers in all lines of the industry is impending." Reports from New Orleans, Chattanooga, Paterson and New England centers are in the same vein. The Journal of Commerce (New York) states that "the real test of the labor shortage is found in the ability of the operatives to win strikes when all economic facts in the industry warrant mill managers in winning."

Iron and Steel

The shortage of labor in the steel mills is universally admitted as a determining factor in the movement toward wage increases recently started by the United States Steel Corporation.

The Cost of Living

The cost of living has settled down during the summer on a plane that is 66½ per cent above the pre-war level.

The general trend of living costs in the immediate future will probably be upward although there is no reason to believe that the change will be great.

There is a fair chance that the general level of wholesale prices will rise considerably in the next few months and later reflect itself in retail prices and living costs.

There is a drive being made among certain powerful groups in the business world to force prices to higher levels and there are a number of conditions which favor its success. The coal, textile and rail settlements are a factor in the situation, also abundant credit, large stocks of gold and a scarcity of certain basic raw materials.

Prices in certain basic industries have already begun to rise. Building materials, metals, fuel and lighting, and clothing are all in the up-swing. Fuel and lighting costs, due mainly to the strike, advanced almost 7 per cent from July to August. Metals and metal products rose 4 per cent.

Business Failures

Business failures, one of the best sign posts of the economic trend, show a slow but steady decline from the high records of late 1921 and early 1922.

According to R. G. Dun & Co. the number of failures in August decreased 2 per cent since July. Not only is this the smallest total of the current year but it is also less than the number shown in all previous months since last October.

The figures for the past year follow:

November, 1921	1,988
December, 1921	2,444
January, 1922	2,723
February, 1922	2,331
March, 1922	2,463
April, 1922	2,167
May, 1922	1,960
June, 1922	1,740
July, 1922	1,753
August, 1922	1,714

Sales

The Federal Reserve Bank of New York reports that July wholesale sales were 2 3-10 per cent greater than in July a year ago.

"This is the largest gain over the same month in the preceding year that has been made since June, 1920," says the report. "The gain reflects greater confidence of retail merchants in placing fall orders and the somewhat higher prices which some of the commodities now command.

"Sales in July were larger than in July a year ago in eight of the ten commodities. Shoes and dry goods showed losses. Our index of shoe sales has been greatly reduced by the closing of a number of factories in Rochester for several months on account of labor troubles."

Retail sales showed substantial improvement during July in the Boston, Cleveland, Chicago and San Francisco districts over the same month a year ago, while sales in the New York district were practically unchanged. The farming sections in the West and South, however, showed a considerable decline.

Bank and Postal Transactions

Savings bank deposits are 3 per cent more now than a year ago according to reports received by the Federal Reserve Board. August bank clearings are 14 per cent above the 1921 level but show a 4½ per cent decline since July. Judged by debits to individual accounts, the nation is doing 13 per cent more business now than last year.

Postal receipts totalled \$19,543,143 during July at offices in the fifty largest cities of the country. This is the biggest July business in the history of the Post Office. The July figures were 11½ per cent greater than for the same month last year. The August receipts showed a 10½ per cent increase over August 1921.

Postal deposits are also on the up-swing. The first increases for many months were recorded in July and August.

Industry by Industry.

The following are thumb-nail summaries, industry by industry, of basic economic conditions at the present time:

Iron and Steel

The fuel shortage, due to the coal and rail strikes, has resulted in the expected decrease of iron and steel production.

The "Iron and Steel Institute" reports steel activity for August at an average rate of only 55 per cent of capacity, and the records of steel ingot production for 30 mills show a decline in June, July and August from the year's peak in May. The drop in pig iron production followed in July, with a further drop in August of over 24 per cent from the July production. Low as these rates are, the production of both steel ingots and pig iron for August this year have almost doubled the rate for August last year.

Partial reports for September indicate an appreciable improvement, slow for the first week, more rapid thereafter.

The business outlook for the future, for so far as it is forecast by unfilled orders on the books of the United States Steel Corporation, is promising. These have shown a steady increase, in spite of higher prices for steel products, for each month of the year since February. The August orders reveal an increase of over 20 per cent above those for February.

The ability of the Steel and Iron industry to speed up production for the future and to catch up on orders is dependent on its fuel allotments and its ability to attract a sufficient supply of labor.

Railroads

The railroads of the United States face what will probably be the greatest traffic demand in history with their equipment in worse condition than has ever been known.

Since July 1st railroad repair work has been seriously crippled because of the inability of the executives to operate their shops with unskilled or inexperienced strike breakers. The Interstate Commerce Commission reports that over 30 per cent of the locomotives of the country were in need of repair in August. Figures compiled by the Railway Employees Department of the American Federation of Labor on September 1st, based on reports from 220 shop points in all parts of the country,

show that more than one half of the motive power of the country was then out of service. The normal number is 7 per cent. The surplus of good order freight cars has now completely disappeared. The figures also show that one third the normal number of men were then employed in the shops but that these men were turning out only one sixth the normal amount of work.

With equipment in this condition the railroads are now required to move an unprecedented amount of coal because of the coal strike settlement and increased factory production; bumper crops in the West, and a greatly accelerated flow of manufactured goods caused by returning business prosperity.

Railroad activity during the next few months will be limited only by the number of skilled men in the repair shops. The settlements which some roads have effected with the striking shopmen will probably enable those roads to handle the traffic adequately in a few months. Other roads will suffer in proportion to the number of unskilled men and vacant places in their shops.

The economic effects of the shop strike even under the most favorable circumstance, however, will be felt long after the issues are settled. There is little doubt but that there will be a severe car shortage in October and November and that the present serious delay in transit will continue unabated for some time to come.

Foreign Trade and Shipping

Foreign trade continues small in comparison with war and boom years, but considerably greater than the pre-war period. Post war trade has not caught up with the enormous expansion of the merchant marine during the war; but a substantial decrease in idle ships is recorded since the beginning of the year.

Exports and imports combined in the first 8 months of 1922 total \$3,300,000,000. The 1920 figure was \$9,300,000,000 but the pre-war level was \$2,500,000,000.

August imports were the largest recorded for two years but this was due primarily to a wish to get shipments into the country before tariff becomes effective.

The American Steamship Owners Association reports that there has been an 8 per cent decrease in privately owned tonnage idle since January 1st. The Shipping Board's total idle tonnage has been reduced from 4,300,000 to 3,977,000 tons.

Coal

At the present time the United Mine Workers of America control over 60 per cent of the soft coal output of the country and about 99½ per cent of the hard output. These facts have been definitely established by the figures on coal production prior to and during the strike.

During the peak month of the boom year 1920 weekly production of soft coal reached

the 12,800,000 mark. During the first week of the strike this spring it sank to about 3,600,000.

During the peak week of this year hard coal production was 2,095,000 tons. During the first week of the strike it was 8,000 tons, showing a union control of 99.6-10 per cent of the possible output. The output was hardly increased at all during the strike because of the almost complete unionization of all hard coal mines.

Building Construction

The building boom continues its record-breaking achievements. The August reports of contracts awarded in 27 North-eastern States bring the total for the year to date, to \$2,362,872,000—the largest for the first eight months of any year. Further, this amount is \$7,000,000 higher than the total for the entire year 1921. The effect of such building construction on general prosperity may be seen in the increase in industrial plant construction, which amounted to \$67,300,000 during August—the largest monthly figure for this kind of construction since March 1920.

Food and Foodstuffs

Original forecasts of a bumper crop, based on conditions as of August 1st, have been upset by deterioration during August. Estimates based on conditions on September 1st, however, still indicate a good yield in the major food crops. The majority of crops show an increase over last year and the estimate for all crops is 7 per cent greater than 1921.

Crop values, of course, are still uncertain. Officials of the Department of Agriculture have appraised the yield, on a September first price basis, at \$6,220,600,000. This is an increase of \$1,250,000,000 over a year ago.

Clothing

According to reports from various sources, the usual slack summer season in the clothing industry has passed, and work has been resumed on a conservative basis for the fall trade.

Textiles

The textile industry has been the slowest to recover from the depression of last year. At the present time, however, reports from various centers indicate that most lines are approaching normal activity with a fair prospect for "good business" in the immediate future.

The gradual settlement of the New England strike is the most significant development of the past few weeks. Approximately one half of the striking mill workers have now returned to work without the wage reduction against which they walked out. This means that business conditions have markedly improved, particularly in view of the fact that the mill

owners were not sorry for the strike when it was called, owing to the large stocks on hand and the depressed condition of the market. It is now more profitable to begin work at the pre-strike wage level than to continue the shut down of the mills.

Metals and Mining

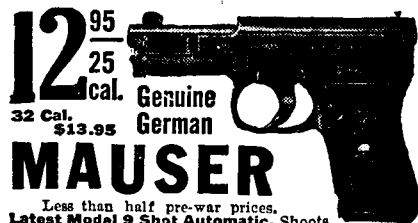
A survey of the copper market points to a need for increased production to avoid a scarcity of copper. Stocks of refined copper were reduced about 35,000,000 lbs., during the past few months. Copper exports for June and July maintained a high level in comparison with last year. Sales for August are estimated at 100,000,000 lbs. This decrease to less than half the amount of the sales reported for May, is due, in the foreign market, to the uncertainty of reparations action, and in the domestic sales, to the coal and rail situation. July copper production decreased almost 5 per cent from the June figures.

Printing

Printing, like other industries, shows a greater activity now than last year and a tendency to recover after the slackness of mid-summer.

Magazine advertising lineage is the best gauge of general conditions in the trade. September figures show a decided increase over both August of this year and September of last. The total for September 1922 is 1,484,601 against 1,242,640 for August of this year, and 1,257,766 for September of last.

A new automatic shuttleless loom has been invented, which, it is believed, will revolutionize the cotton manufacturing industry. The loom is the invention of an Englishman and is said to give double production, plus automatic weaving.



Less than half pre-war prices.
Latest Model 9 Shot Automatic. Shoots standard cartridges. Convenient to carry—lies flat in the pocket—perfect, safety device. World's Famous **Luger** 30 cal. \$21.95 — Hand Ejector Revolver, swing out cylinder 32 cal. \$16.95, 38 cal. \$17.95. All our guns brand new latest models—guaranteed genuine imported.

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EDITORIAL



Tyrannical Imitators Lined up like a rank of loyal soldiers, the Federal judges of the country, with a few striking exceptions, have been falling over themselves issuing injunctions against and jailing the railroad workers in a mad contest to imitate the conduct of the notorious Judge Taft, better known to the workers as "Injunction Bill."

William Howard Taft was a mediocre lawyer until placed on the bench, and he issued his widely heralded injunctions in the Southwest Railroad strike in 1886; in the Burlington strike in 1888, and in the Toledo, Ann Arbor and North Michigan strike in 1892. All workers who would not be spaniels at Taft's command were promptly sent to jail. His reputation became national. He was a man after the big interests' own heart. He had demonstrated, like Warren G. Harding, that he was a "reliable" man, and henceforth his rise to power and glory was assured. So in due time, like Harding, he became President, and after being kicked out by the people was made Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States.

So anxious have been the judges to emulate the record of Judge Taft that some of them—like C. J. Skinner, at Augusta, Ga.—have been writing out their decisions against the rail workers even before holding any hearings and before the presentation of any evidence whatsoever.

Some twenty-five hundred years ago there existed a king, known as Darius, who ruled over the Medes and the Persians. He was clothed with absolute power. But he was not a usurper like our present-day American judges. He was royal spawn. He claimed, as all kings claimed, that his right to rule was a "divine right." All the people under Darius were slaves. What he said was law, just as we now find in the United States of America that what an injunction judge says is law. Darius, the Persian despot, could and did imprison at will; the same is now true of the injunction judges of America. There is but little difference.

The injunction is not law; it is not an instrument of the people; it is not taken out of the books wherein are written the enactments of law-making bodies set up by the people. It is simply and only an order issued by a judge who, in most all cases, was a corporation lawyer before being made a judge. It is nothing but judge-made law, and its issuance is nothing but a matter of personal preference with its maker—the judge who, if he never really worked for a living, if he never associated with the "lowly," if he dines frequently with the "open-shoppers," or if he is the least irritable, is sure to issue an injunction against the workers.

So the injunction—the one-man law—is nothing less than the modern equivalent of the command of a king; for the injunction judge, the same as the kings of old, lays down the law, fixes the punishment for its violation, and then executes the sentence. He jails the workers for "contempt of court" when he himself is in contempt of the Constitution which was drafted for the protection of the people against one-man law. But long ago we were brought to realize that judges are no respecters of the Constitution, though they expect us to respect their own unlawful decisions.

Candor compels us to characterize the sending of rail workers, or any other workers, to jail by judges for "contempt of court"—for violating injunctions—as disgraceful, most infamous and damnable. If they violate the law, if they are charged with crime, let them be proceeded against according to law; let them be tried by a jury of their peers, which has been the right of all freemen since the days of Magna Charta, and earlier, and if legally convicted let them be punished as other violators. We possess the utmost respect for the courts as an institution, but are at a loss for language to express our genuine contempt for all such property worshipping judges, better known as corporation tools. A more complete mockery of justice could not be imagined. Nothing better could be calculated to stimulate the rapidly failing confidence of the people in the judiciary.

Not a scrap of testimony has been given to show that any of these workers violated any law whatsoever. They are not criminals, and not guilty of any crime meriting a prison cell. And we want it known that we ask immunity for no man who may be guilty of any unlawful or criminal act; but what we do ask is that when a worker is charged with unlawful conduct he shall be tried by the regular process of law and before a jury of his peers, the same as any other citizen of our country—not by a prejudiced, whimsical and malicious judge who assumes the role of judge, jury, and executioner at the same time.

But we can hardly expect anything different from such judges—appointees of political bosses—who, prior to reaching the bench, were for years the trusted and highly paid representatives of the railroads, the bankers, trusts, monopolies, corporations and privileged interests. It would be expecting too much of human nature to see such men turn squarely around and do justice to those whom they have always bitterly opposed—the rank and file of citizens.

If you should think that we are unjust or too severe in our criticism, read what the American Judicature Society has to say in Bulletin VIII, on page 24:

"If there is one sad anomaly that should stand out in our present days of conscientious self-searching, it is the harsh fact that, with all our prating about justice, we deliberately withhold it from the thousands who are too poor to pay for it."

Before the State Bar Association of Texas, Judge Seymour D. Thompson thus expressed himself:

"There is danger, real danger, that the people will see at one sweeping glance that all of the powers of their Government, Federal and State, lie at the feet of us lawyers, at the feet of the Judicial Oligarchy; that those powers are being steadily exercised in behalf of the wealthy and powerful classes. Great trusts may place their yokes upon the necks of the people of the United States; trial by jury, and ordinary criminal justice of the States, are set aside and Federal court injunctions substituted therefor."

Judge Clarence N. Goodwin, as Chairman of the Conference of Bar Associations, which met in Washington on February 23, 1922, had this to say to his associates:

"Equality before the law is impossible so long as the rich and powerful are represented in court by the highly educated lawyers. Until such a condition is corrected there will be little justice in the courts."

And we could easily continue quoting the criticisms of men high in the legal profession, men who have been administering severer criticisms of their own associates than is uttered by us.

The fact has been burned into the hearts of the workers that there is something wrong in this country; and that the judicial nets

are so adjusted as to catch and punish the minnows and let the whales slip through. This condition is causing a powerful feeling of disgust and resentment to sweep over the land, and is some day going to cause the workers to solidly unite to secure a full measure of fair dealing. When that day arrives, and coming it is, peacefully, we hope, no judicial despot will dare to jail any one to please the corporations and the forces of reaction. When this time comes, and coming it is as certain as the waters flow to the sea, the forces of privilege, of greed and reaction, will not rule in Congress, in legislatures and the courts. The day of labor is to come, and the people shall be free, and it will come only by the unified voice and vote of the farmer, the mechanic, the laborer and their friends.

Where Will It End? We mean the discussion about the right of men to work. The country is now being deluged with canned and stereotyped speeches about this sacred right. It is the favored topic of the President, his Vice-President, Attorney General, and Secretary of War. And every lackey, hanger-on, fake politician and public man of "eminence" who bears the stamp of reaction is spouting and prating about it at every opportunity. None of them can avoid shedding tears over the "loyal" worker who exercises his "inalienable and God-given right to work."

In his recent ill-advised, one-sided utterances upon the subject, Mr. Harding declared that he was "resolved to use all the power of the Government to sustain the 'right of men to work' without let or hindrance, and without the consent of any other man or set of men."

Now that was probably not what Mr. Harding meant. Indeed not. We only wish that he had meant it. He frequently says many things which he does not mean, and means so many things which he does not say. What he probably really meant was that a man has the "right to work" only when another man revolts against unbearable conditions and starvation wages and goes out on strike. And what he also meant was that every employer has the "right to work" his employee under any conditions and for whatever wages he chooses.

To our bitter disappointment the fact has been burned into our hearts that the only time a working man has the "right to work" guaranteed him by the Government is when he is under the protection of a scab-herding and strike-breaking agency instead of a labor organization.

If this were not true, and if Mr. Harding really meant what he said, the Government would have enforced the "right to work" of the thousands, yes millions, of jobless men who were compelled last winter to tramp the streets begging and coaxing for an opportunity to work, all because they did not have the "consent" of a small set of men. At that time Mr. Harding and his imitators said and did absolutely nothing about sustaining the sacred right of those hungry and desperate men to work, eat and live.

If a man has the "right to work" that the President and the banner toters of the special interests claim, then he has the same right to a job which will pay enough to keep himself and his dependents in decency. But every clear-headed and informed person knows that when an unscrupulous employer, or a corporation, demands more profits, when wages are to be cut, this "right to work" is simply transferred to the right to starve—nothing else. And what the recreant "defenders" of the "public" really mean is that the employer shall not be interfered with, but rather assisted, in the process of carrying out his right to starve the workers into submission and to do as he pleases.

So with things as they are, with reaction drunk with its power and its puppets singing its praises, the worker has no actual "right to work;" he simply works only at the pleasure of the employer—that's all. And all this cant about his "right to work" is simply an attempt to uphold the disgraceful act of scabbing, and for the purpose of making a strike-breaking agency out of the Federal Government and to pave the road to try and TAKE AWAY his right to quit—to strike—which is almost certain to be attempted at the next session of Congress.

So we must drive home the fact to every wage worker in the country that the only rights he now possesses are those which he is strong enough to get and to keep—no more. At all times it is a question of organization.

Only when reaction has been dethroned, when the people come into possession of their rights, when we get men in public office, high and low, who will dare to tell the people the truth, when wage slavery is no more, when the workers receive their fair share of what they produce, then, and not until then, will men and women have the "right to work."

A MESSAGE TO LABOR

By U. S. SENATOR ROBERT M. LA FOLLETTE

After a lifetime spent in observing the operation of government, my faith is unshaken that the workers of America in all walks of life have it in their hands to save this country and to preserve its original principles and its free institutions for the benefit of all the American people. Unless the present generation miserably fails, the cause of true representative government is as secure in this crisis as in the times of Jefferson and Jackson and Lincoln.

In this great struggle the workers' weapon is a ballot. It is an effective and all powerful weapon. Wielded with intelligence for a righteous cause, it can not fail to win.

Shun, as you would the plague, all who counsel resort to force and violence. The overthrow of government by violence will gain the worker nothing but additional hardship and suffering for himself and his family. If the American people do not have sufficient intelligence to secure and hold control of government through the ballot, they would not have the intelligence to retain the con-

trol of government if they were to secure that control by force.

The ballot can be used as effectively today as it was used in the other great crises of our history. Indeed, I believe that now as never before the masses of the American people enjoy the greatest opportunity for effective political action.

The problem confronting this country—monopoly control of industry and credit, the granting of special privileges through excessive tariffs, ship subsidies, railroad guarantees and gratuities, the sheltering of tax dodgers by vicious legislation, the bestowal of special favors and exemptions upon corporations at the hands of the courts, the denial to the masses of men of the fundamentals of liberty—one and all may be rightly settled in an orderly and effective manner only through political action.

If the workers of this country will live up to their traditions and use the political power in their hands, these problems will be settled and settled rightly, in full accord with the underlying principles of our Government.

Courage

'Tis easy to sing when skies are blue,
When winds are fair and friends are true,
When the world's gay and joy's on the wing.
It is easy then to smile and sing.
But when storm clouds break and grief appears
And life's skies are filled with sighs and tears
Are you fit just then to do your best?
And to boldly face the acid test,
To speak for what you think is true;
Not only speak, but dare and do,
Though epithets vile are at you hurled
Can you smilingly look upon the world?
A world that now seems much askew
With vulgar greed and visions few
Proclaim your message in danger's sight
And send it forth with main and might.

When your reason's with your conscience
squared
To meet life's greatest, you are prepared.
So steadily keep to the path of right
Through dismal day, through eerie night
Though all around may chaff and sneer,
The beacon of hope shines bright and clear,
To guide you safe to the haven grand,
Where peace and beauty go hand in hand
Along the streets where joy-bells ring.
In the city of which the poets sing,
For which the martyrs fought and bled,
And blazed the path for us to tread.

PETER GRANT.

THE FREE-BORN BRITISH WORKER IN THE FOURTEENTH CENTURY

The first law passed in England, affecting laborers, was during the reign of Edward III, who ascended the throne in 1327. The statute was entitled the XXIIID of Edward the Third. The population of the country had been greatly reduced by the "Black Plague," and the scarcity of labor caused wages to rise. The landlords and land owners used their political power to keep wages down. The law enacted was as follows:

"That every man and woman, able in body, and within the age of three score, not living in merchandise, nor exercising any craft, not having his own whereof to live, either land about whose tillage he might employ himself, nor serving any other, should be bound to serve if required, at the accustomed wage."

If he refused, he was committed to jail until he found surety to enter into service. If a worker was employed, and left before the time agreed, he was to be imprisoned. No employer could pay more than the old wages, upon pain of forfeiting double what he paid. If the workman accepted more, he was committed to jail; the overplus to go to the King's use, in alleviation of the dismes or quinzimes assessed on the town or district.

The statute, XXVTH of Edward the Third, C. 2, indicated that carters, plowmen and other servants were to serve by the year, and not by the day, and were not to go out of the town where they dwelt in winter, to work elsewhere in summer. The wages of servants in husbandry, and certain artificers, were fixed by the act. Not only was the workman tied to the soil at a fixed wage, but his choice of clothing was rigidly restricted, and his allowance of meat and drink defined for him.

Statute XXXVII of Edward the Third, C. 3, declares—

"All people that have not Forty Shillings of goods nor of shattles shall not take or wear any manner of cloth but blanket and russet of Twelve Pounds the yard, and shall wear the girdles of linen according to their estate, and that they get to eat and drink as pertaineth to them and not excessively."

Edward VI, in the first year of his reign, passed a law brutally punishing those who were found without a master, as follows:

"For as much as idleness and vagabondry is the mother and root of all thefts, robberies and all evil acts and other mischiefs, be it enacted, that whosoever, man or woman, not being lame, impotent, or so aged or diseased with sickness that he or she cannot work, shall, either like a serving man want a master, or like a beggar, idly wander by the highway side or in the streets, and do so continuously for the space of three days, and if no man otherwise will take them, do not offer themselves to work for meat and drink, or after they be so taken, to work for the space agreed betwix them and their masters, delay their work out of convenient time, that then, every such person shall be committed for a vagabond to two of the next Justices of the Peace, who shall immediately cause the said loiterer to be marked with a hot iron in the breast, the mark of V, and adjudge the same person to such presentor, to be his slave for the space of two years; only giving the said slave bread and water, or small drink, and refuse all meat; the said slave to work by beating, chaining, or otherwise in work or labor, how vile soever it be; and if any manner of slave appointed run away, the same Justices shall cause such slave to be marked on the forehead, or ball of the cheek, with a hot iron, with the sign of an S, and shall judge the run-away to be the said master's slave forever; and if the said slave shall, the second time, run away, that every such running away shall be judged felony, and such run-away to be taken as a felon, and condemned to suffer pains of death as other felons."

THE FREE-BORN AMERICAN WORKMAN IN THE TWENTIETH CENTURY

In the United States, during the reign of The Vacationer, It was ordered and decreed: That said defendants (workers)), and each of them, and each and all of their attorneys, servants, agents, associates, members, employees, and all persons acting in aid of, or in conjunction with them, be * * * restrained from in any manner interfering with, hindering or obstructing said railroad companies (employers), or any of them, their agents, servants, or employees, * * * or obstructing the agents, servants and employees of said railroad companies (employers), or any of them, engaged in the inspection, repair, operation, and use of trains, * * * or other equipment of said railroad companies (employers), or any of them; and from preventing, or attempting to prevent, any person or persons from freely entering into or continuing in the employment * * * ; or in any manner conspiring, combining, confederating, agreeing, and arranging with each other, or with either person or persons, organizations or associations, to injure or interfere with, or hinder, said railroad companies (employers), or any of them; loitering, or being unnecessarily in the vicinity of the points and places of ingress or egress of the employees of said railroad companies (employers), * * * or aiding, abetting, directing, or encouraging any person or persons, organization or association, by letters, telegrams, telephone, word of mouth, or otherwise inducing, or attempting to induce by * * * display of numbers or force; jeers, entreaties, argument, persuasion, rewards, or otherwise, any person or persons to abandon the employment of said railroad companies (employers), or any of them, or to refrain from entering such employment, in any manner, by letters, printed or other circulars, telegrams, telephone, word of mouth, oral persuasion or suggestion, or through interviews to be published in newspapers, or shall otherwise, in any manner whatsoever, encourage, direct or commend any person, whether a member of any or either of said labor organizations or associations * * * , or otherwise to abandon the employment of said railroad companies (employers), or any of them, or to refrain from entering the service of said railroad companies (employers) or any of them. (2) That the said defendants (workers) * * * be restrained and enjoined from issuing any instructions, requests, public statements, or suggestions, in any way, to any defendant herein, or to any official or members of said labor organizations * * * , or to any official or member of any system federation thereof, with reference to their conduct, or the work they shall perform, or to induce any such official or members, or any other persons whomsoever, to do anything for the purpose of, or calculated to cause any employee of said railroad companies (employers) or any of them, to abandon employment thereof; or to cause any persons to refrain from entering the employment thereof * * * ; using, causing or consenting to the use of any of the funds or monies of said labor organizations in aid of, or to promote or inaugurate the doing of any of the matters or things hereinbefore complained of."

Comparison of the Twentieth Century regulations with those of the Fourteenth Century indicate that aside from the elimination of the brand upon the breast, forehead or cheek, (which is now restricted to live stock on the ranges), the privileges and freedom of action of the toilers have not advanced as rapidly as some may be inclined to believe; and would indicate that our much boasted civilization is, after all, a thin veneer, covering the practices of medieval ages.

IN MEMORIAM

Bro. N. P. Anderson, L. U. No. 12

Whereas the Almighty God in His Divine wisdom has called to his Heavenly Home our esteemed Brother N. P. Anderson while in the prime of life and blossom of manhood, devoted to the best of moral principles in furthering the welfare of his beloved wife and many friends; and

Whereas we deeply regret the sad occasion that deprives us of such a kind and faithful brother; therefore be it

Resolved, That the members of Local No. 12 I. B. E. W., extend their sincerest sympathy to his beloved wife in this her hour of deepest sorrow; and be it further

Resolved, That our charter be draped for thirty days and a copy of these resolutions be sent to the bereaved wife, and a copy sent to the official journal for publication and one copy spread on the minutes of our Local Union.

L. J. MOSLEY
A. B. GRIFFIN
W. R. CARLILE
Resolutions Committee.

Bro. A. G. Herdliska, L. U. No. 51

Whereas it has pleased Almighty God in His infinite wisdom to call from our midst our beloved brother, Alva G. Herdliska, who was killed while performing his duty. Although a member of Local Union No. 51 for less than one year, he made many friends who will miss him.

Whereas Local Union No. 51 has lost a true and loyal friend and brother; therefore be it

Resolved, That we, members of Local No. 51, extend to his bereaved family our heartfelt sympathy in their hour of need and sorrow; and be it further

Resolved, That we drape our charter for thirty days, and that a copy of these resolutions be sent to the bereaved family, a copy sent to the official journal for publication and a copy spread on the minutes of our meeting.

B. F. ERNST
W. H. CULP
E. J. FRASER
L. T. HENRY
Committee.

Bro. Edward McCabe, L. U. No. 352

Whereas the Supreme Ruler of the Universe has deemed it advisable to call from our midst on this day, August 22, 1922, Bro. Edward McCabe; and

Whereas Brother McCabe has always shown a loyalty that should be and will be a mark to remember and strive for; and

Whereas his memory will always be cherished by hundreds of friends and brothers who knew him; be it therefore

Resolved, That we, the members of Local Union No. 352, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, of Lansing, Mich., do hereby tender our heartfelt sympathy to his bereaved relatives in this their time of sadness; and be it further

Resolved, That our charter be draped for a period of thirty days and that a copy of these resolutions be sent to the mother of Brother McCabe, one copy to the official journal of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, and that one copy be spread upon the minutes of our Local Union.

CHAS. PARSONS
RUDOLPH MEISSNER
J. J. SANKERS
Resolutions Committee.

Bro. Harold Lange, L. U. No. 110

Whereas it has pleased the Almighty God to take from our midst our beloved Bro. Harold Lange; and

Whereas in his untimely taking away, Local No. 110 has lost an esteemed and worthy brother; therefore be it

Resolved, That we, as a union in brotherly love, pay tribute to his memory and extend to his bereaved relatives our deepest sympathy in this their hour of grief; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be spread upon the minutes; that a copy be sent to the bereaved relatives and a copy be forwarded to our official journal for publication.

L. P. KELLY, R. S.
G. BRESSMAN, Pres.
R. W. HOLMES, Fin. Sec.

Bro. Thomas Reilly, L. U. No. 696

Whereas there has been taken from our midst Bro. Thomas Reilly, who was electrocuted while at work, whereby Local No. 696, I. B. E. W., has lost a true and loyal member who served his country during the World War in the navy; therefore be it

Resolved, That we, the members of Local No. 696, I. B. E. W., do extend to his bereaved relatives our heartfelt sympathy in their hour of sadness in their great loss; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to his relatives, a copy be sent to the official journal for publication, and a copy be spread on our minutes; and be it further

Resolved, That our charter be draped for a period of thirty days and the meeting adjourned to respect the memory of our departed brother.

ALLEN T. HYATT
GEORGE COLONY
R. HARTIGAN
Committee.

Bro. William V. Paschal, L. U. No. 829

Resolutions of respect of memory of Bro. William V. Paschal who came to his death by the hands of an enemy of organized labor on the 21st day of August, 1922 (Year of our Lord), God saw fit to take from us our friend and brother; therefore, be it

Resolved, That we, members of the I. B. E. W., put our shoulders to the wheel in a more concerted effort to win this strike, and advocate the principle of righteousness and honesty for which our late brother laid down his life.

Whereas in his lifetime we have recognized him as a loyal and true brother and friend, an honest and upright man, a loving husband and father, a good citizen, patriotic and devoted to the welfare of his country and his duties as a kind brother; therefore be it

Resolved, That we, the members of Local Union No. 829, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, do hereby express our heartfelt sympathy to his bereaved family and relatives in their hour of sorrow; and be it further

Resolved, That our charter be draped for thirty days, and a copy of these resolutions be sent to the official journal, and one copy sent to the bereaved family, also a copy be spread upon the minutes of the Local Union.

A. T. CLICK,
Local Chairman.
THOS. J. CASPER,
Fin. Sec'y.

Bro. Thomas Winters, L. U. No. 713

Whereas it has been the will of our Almighty God to call from our midst our esteemed brother, Thomas Winters, and

Whereas Local No. 713 has lost one of its true and loyal members; be it therefore

Resolved, That we extend our deepest and most heartfelt sympathy to the relatives and friends of our departed brother; and be it

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be spread on our minutes and our charter be draped for a period of thirty days.

J. F. SCHILT
ROBERT ALTON
CHAS. LAVIN.

Bro. Clymer L. Cooper, L. U. No. 346

Whereas Bro. G. L. Cooper, hearkening to the Divine command has gone to that undiscovered land from whose bourn no traveler has ever returned. Brother Cooper died August 25, 1922, while in the flower of useful, vigorous and glorious manhood. His many noble qualities, buoyant spirits, light heart and deep affections will ever remain fresh in the memories of those who knew him best; and

Whereas we recognize that in his sudden death Local Union No. 346 has lost a true, loyal, highly esteemed and worthy member, the country a good and loyal citizen, the home a faithful and devoted husband and father; therefore be it

Resolved, That we bow our heads in prayer to Almighty God, that his soul may rest in peace; and be it further

Resolved, That the members of Local Union No. 346 extend their deepest sympathy to his family and friends in this their hour of grief and sorrow; and be it further

Resolved, That our charter be draped in mourning for a period of thirty days as a token of respect to his memory, and that a copy of these resolutions be spread upon our minutes, a copy sent to his family and a copy sent our official journal for publication.

Not gone from memory nor from love
But to our Father's home above.

Free from all sorrow, grief and pain;
Our loss is his eternal gain.

J. P. HAMILTON, Pres.
RALPH A. VICK
PLES ARMSTRONG
J. M. BUMBACHER, Sec'y.
Committee.

THE CARE OF CHILDREN'S TEETH

By DR. HERMANN M. BIGGS, New York State Commissioner of Health

How often one hears a mother say, "What is the use of taking care of the first teeth when in a few years my child will have a nice new set?" This is a very wrong and harmful idea. By following this kind of reasoning many mothers have unknowingly caused their children to have misshapen mouths and to suffer much unnecessary pain from decaying teeth. Listen a few minutes and we will tell you why this is so.

If the first teeth decay and have to be extracted or if cavities occur and chewing becomes painful, the child can not properly chew its food, and consequently the jaws do not develop normally. Chewing exercises and strengthens the muscles of the jaw and increases the blood supply of the teeth and jaws. Unless the teeth obtain a normal supply of blood they do not receive enough lime salts to make them hard. This also affects the second teeth which are forming beneath the first.

The first permanent tooth to appear is the six-year molar or chewing tooth which comes through just back of the temporary molars. It is commonly mistaken for a first tooth and thus unless the child has been taught early to take care of his teeth it is often allowed to decay.

If the first permanent molar is lost it usually results in irregular second teeth as the next incoming tooth pushes forward and occupies the space left by the removal. Besides causing irregularity of the second teeth, this provides additional crevices for food to lodge in and decay, and makes it much more difficult to keep the teeth clean. It is an expensive and painful job to have these teeth straightened when the child is older.

If the jaw fails to develop properly as a result of these causes, the middle section of the face ceases to grow, the face is misshapen, and troubles of the nose, throat and ear often result later in life. Proper care of the temporary teeth will therefore save much pain and suffering and expense. Moreover, if a child is taught to take proper care of the first teeth, there will be less chance of decay of the permanent teeth through neglect and the child will have learned a valuable lesson while young.

A child should be taken to a dentist at least once every six months beginning at three years of age, to have the teeth examined, thoroughly cleaned, and if necessary, to have any cavities filled. This slight expense is cheap insurance against the risk of expensive dental work when the child is a little older, and it starts a good habit of proper periodical attention to the teeth which may well last throughout life.

A neglected decayed tooth sooner or later becomes abscessed. An abscessed tooth pours poison into the system and may cause heart trouble, rheumatism, inflammation of the nerves and a number of our disorders.

Teach the children to clean their teeth thoroughly after each meal and before going to bed. Tell them to brush the way the teeth grow, commencing with the gums, the upper teeth down, the lower teeth up, both inside and out. This method cleans teeth better than brushing across. Show them how to keep the spaces between the teeth clean by the use of silk floss. Above everything else, keep the children's teeth free from decay by taking them regularly to the dentist.

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HERE is the Cyclopedia of Applied Electricity. The world's greatest electrical engineering for the beginner and a handy reference guide. A new and better way of doing things—all the new appliances and. These great books are not one man's ideas, but the combined knowledge and minds. They lay the whole field of electrical engineering open before your the coupon today to learn how over 50,000 men are earning more money to

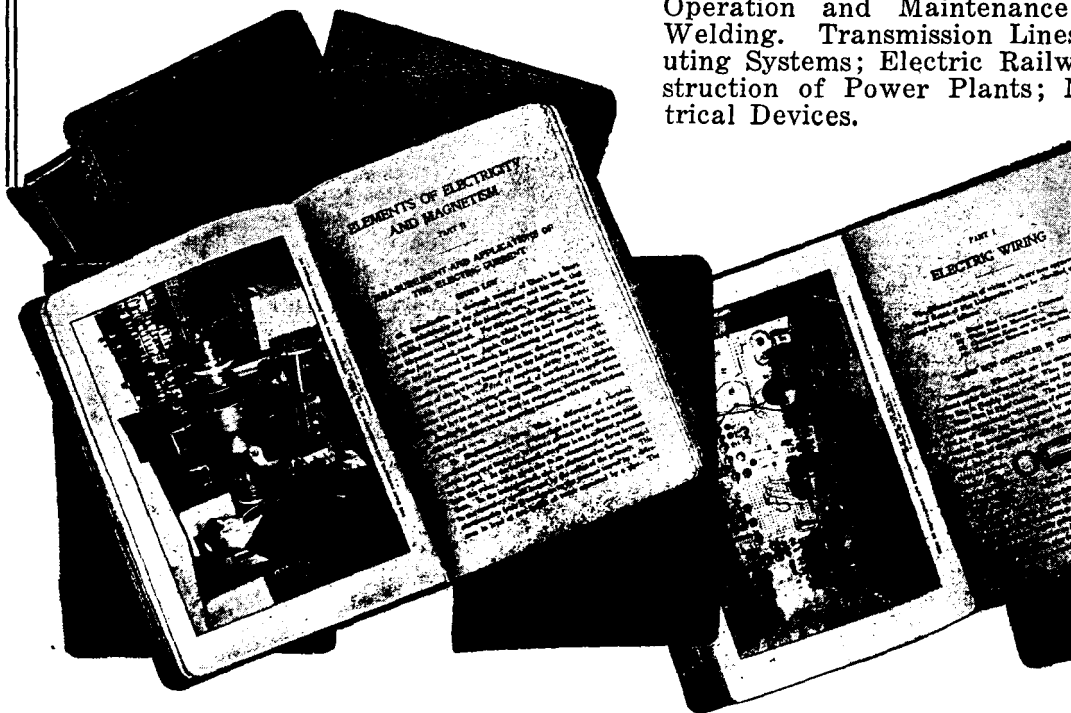
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Dear Sirs:

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as an electrician for several differ-
ent firms doing practically all kinds
of installation work, but did not
really understand the possibilities of
the electrical field until I got your
set of electrical books. I expect to
go into business for myself now.
You can easily understand that I am
able to do this only because of what
I learned from your books. They
are fine books and I hope I will get
a chance to recommend them to
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CORRESPONDENCE



L. U. NO. 2, ST. LOUIS, MO.

Editor:

THERE is plenty to write about and I wish I were a good enough scribe to make it "real stuff" as an editor would probably put it, but I have to content myself with just putting it in my own language and tell the brothers at large that again No. 2 has draped her charter in behalf of our late brother, Pat Burnet, who for some time has been in a pretty bad fix and oftentimes No. 2's heart has gone out to him, for we all more or less realized his helplessness, and again I want to comment on the fact that though No. 2 may have her faults, yet never to my knowledge has she turned a deaf ear to the appeals that were sent in by him and now that he has gone we want those he left to know and feel that they still have sympathizers in No. 2 and that we extend to them our heartfelt sympathy. We also want to thank No. 18, of the coast, for the interest and cooperation that they gave us in helping to take care of this brother. It goes to show that carrying a card is something bigger and better than just banded together for selfish interests and a raise in pay.

Then there is the railroad strike and what the interests are trying to do to all organized labor and what their fight means to all, but I will let the editor and some of the experts tell it to the brothers in forceful words that will carry it to the hearts of all.

Fraternally yours,

SOLLIDAY,
Press Correspondent.

L. U. NO. 100, FRESNO, CALIF.

Editor:

As we do not seem to carry any one with the title of "Press Secretary," and as I like to read the WORKER and know of several worthy brothers with the same failing, I think I may as well break the ice that seems to be gathering around our local, just to see what kind of fish there are in the stream.

I notice that in nearly every issue of the WORKER we have a few of those old war horses who start their letters, "As this is my first attempt," etc. Seems like a fault that so many letter writers use the same sentence. You will notice I changed mine.

It has always been a puzzle to me why so few locals have press secretaries, or, if they do have them, why so few write. With the right kind of information from the different locals, in my opinion, working conditions of any kind of advantages en-

joyed by one local or one part of the country might be used as a foundation for help for some other part, if some mention of an advantage gained was in our journal.

That one thing—condition—is really what persuaded me to overrun the bounds of convention and get me tangled with this mighty pen. I say mighty because I read that in some book, but—on with the dance.

I hope every member of Local No. 100 gets a copy of this number of the WORKER, because if I succeed in doing such a big thing as to start them thinking for themselves, well, this night's work will have been well paid for.

It has been either my fortune or misfortune, of which, as yet, I am not absolutely sure, to hear a number of complaints from members, officers and others, of my own or, I will say, the local union of which I am a member, about the power of one of our worthy brothers.

Now I fully realize that in any local or in any club, organization, corporation, civic body or what not, that you will generally find a man, a big man, not perhaps physically, but mentally, who is generally the guiding star. But there is a difference in the average leader and the one of whom I speak. The average leader has his advisers and he also listens to the voice of the masses. Not so, apparently, of our own. His is a one-man power. When he makes a statement he thinks it is final. When he hears objections to his ways he gets up and pounds the table with his fist for emphasis.

Whatever way he votes on a question—or talks—generally the house votes except perhaps a few. The only reason I can see for this is that he places those who are looking for work on the jobs that are offered, so if you don't vote right you don't eat, or at least none too well.

Now if there are any of my brother members who have the nerve to stand up and tell me that this condition is just and should continue to exist, I would certainly like to see or hear him.

When approximately 50 working members of a local union put a man in a position to represent them; when they pay the money they earn from honest work or toil for the upkeep of a position for a man as their representative, it is certainly not fair to put them in the position of a beggar seeking alms in return.

It is neither fair to them nor to the man himself, and in my own small opinion that is the main trouble.

Another thing. What is, in your opinion, a union man? Is it a man who is eternally

telling you how much he has done for you and how little he received in return, or is it one who believes in all for one and one for all?

Now I believe that a man representing your interests in an organization should be well paid. Say the highest wages you demand from your employer. If he furnishes his own automobile he should receive payment for that, but at the same time I fail to see where he is entitled to all you have in the treasury for his hard work—with his jaws.

I venture to say that 50 per cent of you do not know the salaries that are paid for the different offices. How many of you know that the salary of the business agent is \$55 per week for 52 weeks in the year? How many of you know that the salary of recording secretary is \$5 per month, 12 months in the year; that the delegate to Building Trades gets \$2.50 per month, or his dues? How many of you know that you pay \$35 per month for a machine for the business agent and besides that there have been bills O. K'd by your trustees for side trips at 10 and 12 cents per mile?

And now, to cap the climax, he says that you must give him a vacation with pay every year that he is in office, because he doesn't receive any overtime for his work. How much overtime do you get in a year, especially the last two? He takes you back three years, when you were making good money, and says that because of that year he is entitled to it. He does not, or did not, mention the fact that times have changed since then. He doesn't mention the fact that your wages have been reduced since then, nor does he mention the fact that he makes, with what he is paid through your local \$376 more per year than you do if you work every day in the week and every week in the year.

He told you that every business agent in our town but two or three got his vacation with pay. I will tell you that there is not one; and most of the locals have a larger membership than ours.

Then last but not least, what do you think of your "trustee," whom you elect to look after your finances, etc., who has crust enough to get up on the floor and tell a member that he thinks it's small of him—"d—small," he said—to question the right of the business agent to have a vacation with pay, after all the hard work he does, sitting up nights, etc., trying to keep up with his work.

But actually, tell me, some one, where all this hard work is. I know of several members who go out nights on business for the local who feel it a duty, and they don't ask pay for everything, either.

Think it over. Take this copy of the WORKER over in some corner where the mailed fist can't scare you and read it over; then think it over.

Fraternally,

J. H. ROBINSON,
Local Union No. 100.

L. U. NO. 106, JAMESTOWN, N. Y.

Editor:

It is again time for another letter to the WORKER, so here goes. Everything is about the same as last month, only it was reported at our last meeting that the Niagara, Lockport and Ontario Power Company wanted six or eight linemen on the high line they are building from Dunkirk to Jamestown. They are paying 80 cents per hour, so I am told. The gangs are now working towards Falconer.

Inside work is picking up a little and our meetings are very well attended. Last meeting we initiated three new ones; we get one or more nearly every meeting night now.

About a dozen of us went to Erie Labor Day to join No. 56 in the parade. We got there in time to see the finish of it. The reason was, Erie was on fast time and we were on slow time. The next time they invite us over I wish they would let us know what time they go by. However, we all attended the ox roast and picnic at Four-mile Creek and we certainly enjoyed ourselves greatly.

We are talking of visiting Local Unions 30, 56, 593, 41 and 63 in this vicinity in the near future, and hope these locals will appreciate our coming. Will give more of the plans in the next WORKER.

This local had an assessment on an apprentice for ratting in the last strike. The car-



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penters took him over our protest. We appealed to the central body, and they referred it to the general officers of each brotherhood. If a man can scab it on one local, then another craft take him in is it any wonder we have so many rats to contend with? Enough said.

One of our members while in Dunkirk recently was talking with the secretary of No. 593, and he was saying that his local could not see how the general officers could afford to pay the insurance for 90 cents a month. He thinks they will make a fizzle of it. It would be well if the general officers could send somebody there or write a good strong letter relating to said insurance.

Wishing all the brotherhood every success, I beg to remain.

Fraternally yours,

W. R. M.
Press Secretary.

L. U. NO. 125, PORTLAND, OREG.

Editor:

Being up to our neck in the railroad strike we feel that it is not out of place to mention the spirit of enthusiasm and earnestness with which our brothers out on strike are conducting themselves.

Our Local is fortunate in having among its membership some of the liveliest wires ever cut in the old I. B. E. W. transformer. Their k. v. a. is rated at not less than six figures. Man, oh, man! how them babies has been mowing down through the onions these past few weeks. We won't go into details as to names, because the list would resemble a young city directory, besides the chances of omitting, inadvertently, one name as worthy of publicity as the others.

Oregon is a country of vast spaces, with our local holding jurisdiction throughout the entire State, outside of Portland, and with the exception of our worthy brothers of Local Union 517 in Astoria. Consequently it has required no little effort to cover the territory involved in the railroad controversy.

The foregoing facts, coupled with that of our organization being without the services of a business agent, have resulted in bringing forth the best talent from among our brothers to fight this battle. Some of the boys have driven day and night, furnishing their own machines—and covering hundreds of miles in an effort to persuade the “weak sisters” off the job.

Not in every instance have their efforts been rewarded with success, but on the whole it has demonstrated to the outside membership that there is a sound basic principle to our organization, and is not (as many have suspected) merely a re-mitting point for dues. Also it has developed for their mental digestion the fact that a solemn obligation was taken by them, the violation of which is not and shall never be forgotten by the real men affiliated with it.

Our worst offenders appear to be those misguided operators employed with the Oregon Electric Railway, but the bridge operators of the S. P. & S. Railway are following them a close second. A few shopmen also are enumerated among the scaly ones.

All of the effort made by our boys has been confined to logical argument by peaceful methods.

It is certainly shocking to a man's intelligence to hear the pitiful arguments advanced by some of the offenders. The educational authorities of our country were shocked to learn of the large percentage of illiteracy as disclosed by the draft board data during the war, but they would surely throw a Julius Caesar swoon should the true percentage of plain, unvarnished fools be disclosed to them. Just plain critters these scabies are. Human in shape, wearing the customary habiliments of men, nourished by the same sort of food, but without the sense of reason. The pity of it is that they don't know that they don't know, and that's what makes them so hopeless. Passively they stand ready and ripe for the iron ring of serfdom to be welded about their necks. Why, some of 'em would be so darn pleased that they would probably rush out and have their names embossed on the rings in gold letters. But they don't need names; serial numbers are sufficient for them and their posterity.

Fortunately all of our efforts are not without success nor devoid of a certain amount of humor. For instance: over in Vancouver, Wash., the railroad has a small herd of scabies who, cattle like, are herded through the corral gate to service trains. Recently it so happened that an inbound Portland train was late (a pretty regular occurrence these days). It also had a meet at that point with an outbound train, which had been serviced at Portland and was 'rarin' to go. But, the inbound needed everything, pretty near, except wheels. The big gate opened and out scampered the rats. With one eye peeled for a festive brick they swarmed onto the O. K. train and cut the engine loose and got busy. They didn't even see the b. o. train until somebody wised them to the boner they had pulled. Then in an excited effort to undo the damage they got bawled on the switching and tied both trains for better than thirty minutes. And the railway managers' association say they have the situation well in hand. O boy! we'll say they do but—it's a bad situation; sort of droopy and puny, so to speak.

The next funniest thing we know of is Warren Gamaliel's one-act comedy in the White House. We'll bet an old time coupling pin against the White House hound that W. G. just hones for the hickory chair on the porch at Marion.

Once we read of how Nero had his throne lugged down to the beach in an august but futile effort to stay the tide, and had to dash home for a dry pair of

pants. We smiled at his egotistical crust; but when the President of these here well-remembered United States, busts into tears and indites a sad epistle to our rowdy little Congress, all because the Santa Fe trainmen ditched their trains in Brawley, Calif., it is sure time to page the comedy camera man.

Now, if Waren G. only knew his United States as he should, there would have been no occasion to thresh about his office like a he Sarah Bernhardt, nor step on the tail of the White House pootch, thereby wringing fresher tears of soul anguish from both. Had he but known them there jungles he'd have also known that them there babies could have resided in that section until they were of age to vote with never a measles, nor whooping cough, nor a chicken pox, for it is sure healthy as well as hot.

M. DEA. CARR,
Press Secretary.

L. U. NO. 188, CHARLESTON, S. C.

Editor:

Just a few lines from Local Union 188. Nothing new in sight to talk about but we all keep busy and that is a lot to say. I promised to tell the facts on the rest of these (?) brothers that I did not get in the last month's WORKER, like Simon Jones, the "Fat Boy;" Larney Williams, assistant to Brother Clayton, of boiler room fame. We claim that Williams is Clayton's assistant because he helped Clayton out of the back door. Somebody said that King was trying to get in to help Williams but he was talking to himself and his hands got in his way. Now look at Brother Warren. He will go to sleep climbing up a 30-foot pole. I guess this is enough of this junk.

If any of the brothers should run across J. C. Duncan tell him to write to Brother Corby, also Bro. Bill Temple. I think he is in Columbus, Ohio.

Well, brothers, one thing has sure got our goat, and that is Tom Cooper, of Local Union 382. He was riding around here sometime ago in a Ford, and now we see him sporting a Dodge car. We want to find out where he found it or what fire did he go to, or who left the car in front of the hotel.

Well, brothers, the railroad strike around here looks pretty bad for the Atlantic Coast Line employees. So far they have failed to sign up; the Southern Road also. The Seaboard has put all men back on the job, and the strikebreakers have left.

For when the One Great Scorer comes to write against your name,
He writes not that you won or lost, but how you played the game.

Best wishes to all.

J. J. BARRINEAU,
Press Secretary.

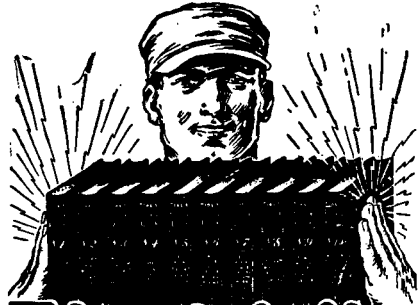
L. U. NO. 212, CINCINNATI, OHIO

Editor:

September 27, with chilly morning breezes greeting the early riser, have no effect on some, still see a few of the regulars going to their daily employment in their shirt sleeves.

Noticed one funny little man today, very much in defiance of dame fashion's proclamation, still sporting the old reliable straw hat. Appearances suggested his not being poor, but close.

The appetizing odors so noticeable at this time of the year when one passes the old popcorn vender causes vain regrets that you were ever forced to grow out of your child-



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hood days and reach the age where it seems so humiliating to walk the streets munching corn from a paper bag.

Bill Higgins and his gang still figure out parleys on the benches of Fountain Square in the early mornings, until the whistle blows for action on the new Gibson House. We hope, for their benefit, that the city does not start beautifying the square until the Gibson job is finished.

The password of the "Higher Ups," of "Xmas Dinner in the New Gibson," has caused the job to progress with startling rapidity. I might suggest to any of the dear brothers interested that they secure their reservations early, as no doubt they will be hard to get later on.

There is so much action today in Cincinnati and so many automobiles (and Fords) continuously on our thoroughfares that it must be quite a hardship for our neighbors from the rural districts to spend a day with us. Saw one the other day who hesitated fully twenty minutes before attempting to make one of our prominent crossings, but finally reached mid-ocean only to be called back by Mr. T. Rafic Kop for jay walking.

That the above incident is an exception rather than the rule in referring to citizens of the rural districts is being brought out more plainly every day. I have in mind that a couple of years ago Ohio sent a small town guy to Washington who has since then been shrewd enough to collect \$75,000 per annum, golf expenses.

Just a year previous to this writing found hundreds of I. B. E. W. delegates, guests of the various locals of St. Louis. I can say it was a visit long to be remembered, and for the ones who will be fortunate enough to make the trip I hope that Montreal will be as liberal in her entertainment in 1923.

The sudden attempt of Bro. Al. Behman to cancel all previous bachelor engagements, was brought about at the "Little Church Around the Corner" when Al. played a very important role in one of the most brilliant of the early fall weddings in Newport's most exclusive set. Brothers Marty and McKenzie, in new tailored garments with exceptionally large hip pockets, served as ushers. Substituted for the time-worn wedding march were the beautiful strains of "Who Said It Couldn't Be Done?" played on the saxophone by George Schwoepe. The wedding breakfast was served on the banks of the White Water River, this being the last request of the young groom, who still retains memories of days past when he gambled his skill against that of the black bass with much success.

The final celebration which is to be held at 29 East Twelfth street upon Al's return from his Canadian honeymoon is being looked forward to by many with keen interest.

I could always account for June weddings, when "A young man's fancy turns," etc, but at this time of the year it must be the fragrance of the wood grate fires on the crisp air that tempts both young and less young

into its rejuvenating rays, which has some bearing on it.

Well, "old top," since all my former advice meant nothing to you it only remains for me to wish you well. This I know is the message from all who know you.

Fraternally yours,

E. S.

L. U. NO. 271, WICHITA, KANS.

Editor:

Just a line to the WORKER in regard to two electrical workers one claiming to be a member of Local Union 997, Shawnee, Okla., and the other of No. 1039, Abilene, Texas. These men have been going on jobs in the State of Kansas and Oklahoma with "phony" receipts. On getting jobs they proceed to borrow money and never attempt to pay it back.

These men's names are (or at least they say their names are) Roy Johnson, who claims Local Union 997 as his local union, and Jack Anderson, who claims membership in Local Union 1039. Please make note of same in WORKER and oblige the rank and file of members working in this district.

I may also state that I have done a little organizing by sending three new members into No. 271. Wishing you the best returns of the day I beg to remain,

Fraternally yours,

J. J. DIMOND.

Peabody, Kans., R. F. D., No. 4.

L. U. NO. 347, DES MOINES, IOWA

Editor:

Well, the weather is lovely and so is everybody, with an extra share of happiness thrown in.

The Grand Old Boys (G. A. R.) of Civil War fame are having their convention here, which started September 26th. On the 27th the city (I mean village) turned out in force to view the biggest and grandest parade ever held here, lasting nearly four hours. I was perched at the cornice of a roof and a series of views surged through my mind's eye of other parades I have seen, but this was the largest yet.

The one big thought that passed me, but not over my head, was that here was a bunch of grand old men who were game to march, and, what is more, came here from the extreme East, South, West and North. While (now get this) we have what one might say, union men galore in this vicinity, Did they all march Labor Day? Were they game to show their colors? Well, I'd be ashamed to say anything or comment upon it, for they all did not. I marched at the rear of our division with the roll call, and had my eye on the boys, as well as the spectators, and saw many whom I know were union men. Maybe Daugherty got under their skins. If they were cowards it probably was a good thing that they did not march. These boys of the G. A. R. marched fifteen long blocks; the youngest seventy-two years

old, the oldest just one century, but they were game, as game as they were in 1861-5. It hurts to think of us of 1922. Even at that, we the real union boys and girls who showed our true colors, helped to make a good showing as in the days gone by, and caused the Chamber of Commerce to throw envious glances, filled with defeat, our way. We got many a cheer that made our chests swell up with pride, knowing that we were respected for our gameness in sticking by a cause that we were justified in belonging to.

Local Union No. 347 turned out in full, and made a proud showing for a nearly whipped but game bunch, and I must say that I was proud to be in that parade, and would have been there even had Mr. Daugherty, of injunction fame, been there with a whole regiment, and a herd of cannon. Being in the right, I felt it my duty towards mankind, mostly those who had to be shown, that I was one of the small atoms of that parade, and I guess the parade succeeded inasmuch as the different Business Agents report unofficially the addition of new members to their quota of future paraders.

We have had some rousing meetings in the last three or four weeks. Bro. Harry Gunn, president, took the count of nine upon two different occasions, turning over the gavel to Bro. Billy Schoen, vice president. No, he was not scared; not much; just for a breathing spell. We have been wondering if it would be proper to have an alternate handy at such meetings to allow the present incumbent a recess occasionally, when business gets too pressing and comes too fast. I myself have been figuring on hooting for more pay or a helper to assist me in handling the books. I sure do hope that our future meetings from now until the first of the year do not get quite so strenuous; it's hard on the nerves.

Brother Hobbs is still business agent and rides hard upon the contractors. When the great spring round-up arrives he will have them all branded and corralled for our edification and new compensation. Let's hope it will be a pleasant one.

The Executive Board, too, are busy. They have a new book now to inscribe new recommendations for the local to wrestle with. Hop to it, brothers, we need some new fire; the old one is about played out.

Brother Hassler, of Marshalltown fame, has arrived to visit us and says mayhaps if the zodiac signs look good to him, he will turn loose a lot of surplus energy to help make Des Moines a fit place in which to live. The brother is undecided whether to work or play awhile. I think he will work, for this is no place to play; too many cops besides the unwritten law is work or starve, promulgated by the Chamber of Commerce; music by Houndo.

Bros. Atkins-Ketchum Co., contractors, who organized the American Electric Co.,

in August, 1922, are doing well and are trying their best to put the whole Local to work. Their organization is not yet quite complete. They say that when the handing out of the injunctions become a law, they will file them against the big guns to prevent them from bidding upon the big jobs. In that way, they claim, they may pull down a nice fourteen, or maybe twenty-story building.

We did a fine, large, broad thing for the N. A. S. E., by setting up a flasher sign with revolving wheels and belt, and dripping oil can with moon and stars and all, but the N. A. S. E. did not reciprocate. This was the Atkins-Ketchum affair and we feel that these two brothers were bunked. Yes, we helped them out in it, but hereafter we as a whole feel that there will be no more flowers handed out to these kind of outfits, unless we are well recompensed for our trouble. It left the boys grievously in the hole. The moon and stars were good, but we saw them both ways.

I just looked over the letters of the September issue and discovered an error, viz: M. H. Nuhle; this scab, if he should happen to see the roll call of scabs, might get too previous in his elation in discovering the mistake, so we take a tuck in his heart strings by printing it right. It



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should read: M. H. Mehle, card number 295377. So now it's right.

I admired the September issue of the WORKER; nothing skimpy about the amount of news, as was the August issue; lots of news from the different locals and a bountiful amount of good food for thought for thinking members.

Well, will close and in the meantime keep Col. Smith W. Brookhart in mind; that's all.

Faternally yours,

CHAS. F. FROHNE,
Press Secretary.

L. U. NO. 882, NEW ORLEANS, LA.

Editor:

Here I am again. Sorry I was late for the September issue.

All crafts in this city are still out and will stay out until properly notified.

It is now about 84 days since we took our stand for what we are justly entitled to—a living wage and proper working conditions.

This is a period, I am made to understand, is called reconstruction, where the attempt is made to bring things back to normal, and, of course, as usual, in this so-called adjustment period who has to start the ball rolling? Labor. Three cuts have been dished out to us so far. What about the cost of living, rent, etc.? Is that coming back to normal? It has not. As a matter of fact it has gone up about 20 per cent thus far. It seems to me the working classes in this great country of ours, whose emblem stands for everything that is just and upright, should be entitled to a living wage, and not a mere existing wage. Who is it that keeps the wheels of our great industries and transportation in motion? Labor. And who helps to keep this great country of ours populated? Again the answer is labor. It is they who as a general rule have large families, and have their children to feed, clothe and educate, so that they will be good citizens and be self-supporting, and the only way they can do it is by receiving a living wage. The rising generations have got to receive a proper education and be kept at school until they reach an age when they can be self-supporting. If they are not taken care of it will mean they will go out in the world and become a burden on the cities and towns in which they live, or will find their way into the sweat shops of this country, which make their money off of child labor, and work, no doubt, ten or twelve hours a day for \$7 a week. What will be the outcome? Before they reach the age of 21 they will be physical and mental wrecks and their children will be likewise.

I wonder how many people have thought of the seriousness of this child labor question. According to latest census figures, approximately 1,000,000 children between the ages of 10 and 15 years, out of a total of 12,000,000 are engaged in gainful occupation. It has come to my mind that there is some-

thing wrong. In England a child has to go to school until he or she has attained at least a grammar school education and are not allowed to smoke cigarettes when they are just knee high to a duck. There are truant officers whose duty it is to see they don't play hookey from school. The parents will have to answer for them if they are caught. I mention this because it is of vital importance. Here we come to that question that will help to cut down that child labor list, and that is a living wage to adults, not a mere existing wage. We have two big industries in this country that are not subject to labor troubles and I find the men satisfied with working conditions and pay. It has been told to me on a number of occasions that we railroad men are never satisfied: "What are you trying to do, run the railroads?" No, we don't want to run the railroads, but all we ask is to be met on a fifty-fifty basis. I do know one thing, it is the shop crafts that make the railroads operate. How are they running? Why on one lung. Capital and labor will have to work hand in hand if peace and harmony are to prevail.

Take the question of seniority rights that is very much discussed now. That is the only thing a railroad man has that he looks upon to keep him at the game. It is the means of making him work with a vim, and he uses it to build a home so that in after years he has something to look forward to. He only attains it on his own efficiency, and without it he would be subject to some boss's petty differences for the least minor offence, also on layoffs.

There has occurred since July 1 an instance to be deeply regretted and that is the stand that our Government has taken against labor, in the shape of an injunction, that in my mind encroaches on the constitutional rights of we American citizens. Why such a severe injunction should be handed to us I am at a loss to say. There are laws in this land that cover the destruction of life and property and the interfering with United States mails. There is only one remedy that we have and that is when we go to the polls on election day to give our support to men who will be fair to the people and labor. It is our only salvation and we owe it to the future generations and ourselves.

What has got me guessing is about all the wrecks in different parts of the country. In several instances they have been placed at the door of the strikers. That may be right or wrong. I was not there to see it, but I will say I am not in favor of such tactics. While I am writing about wrecks I am reminded of one that happened here in New Orleans, and no doubt would have been handed to the strikers, too. It happened at Union Depot. An engine was leaving the depot, going out on the main line, when the flange on one of the drivers came off and tore up some track. What would have happened on the road I am not in a position to say. I wonder if that engine was in-

spected by efficient inspectors? Do you think it would have happened otherwise? How many cases of poor inspection have caused wrecks on the roads?

The railroads of this country have been spending millions of dollars to fight labor, and the very thing we are out on strike for they have been giving those men who stayed in, or went in after the strike, to help the roads crush you and your family. They have been getting a living wage. We have men who stayed on the job, who had paid-up cards and others who belonged as long as there was back time to be had. Then they were union men heart and soul. They took an oath to stand by their fellowmen in time of trouble, but what is an oath to them? It is nothing. Before I would break an oath taken before my fellow workmen I would go out and sweep the streets. I took, as many others did, an oath of allegiance to Uncle Sam in the war. What would have happened had we broken that obligation is hard to tell. I consider one obligation as binding as another. A man who has no word is hard to be trusted. I wonder how many have said these words, "I will help, aid and assist my fellow men," and have let the almighty dollar become their master and forgot. My brothers, this is all I have to say on the subject.

Fraternally yours,
EDWARD L. STEPHENS,
Press Secretary.

L. U. NO. 1151, MEXIA, TEX.

Editor:

If you have the space please drop this in the WORKER as Local No. 1151 has never had anything in so far.

Work has dropped off to nothing here and if any of the members are thinking of coming this way please change your minds, as you will find the "pickins" hard. Now, brothers, this is not the old homeguard stuff, as this local is composed entirely of "floaters" and we are just trying to help the members out.

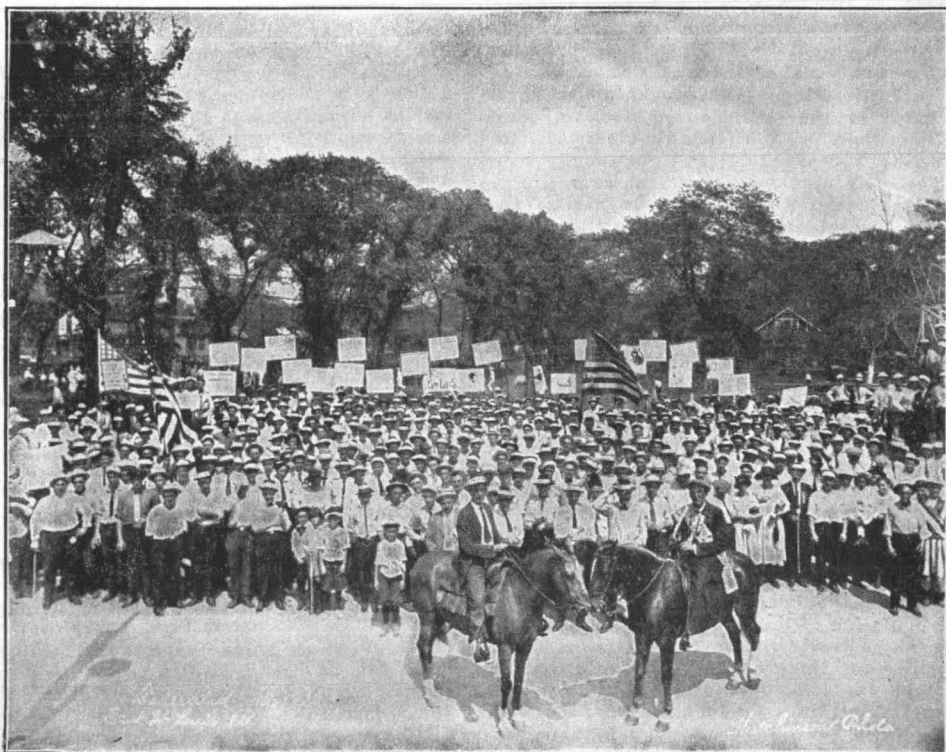
One of the contractors who is a member of the brotherhood, but is now contracting, is trying his best to cut the scale, but he has a slim chance as long as the present bunch are here.

Some members might think that the new Kosse Oil Field will bring some work, but so far there is nothing there. Only paying six dollars for ten hours' work and no overtime. We are going to line up the field as soon as some work starts there.

We would like very much to see more letters in the WORKER.

JACK MOORMAN.

The natives of Southeastern Asia have long known of the curative properties of Chaulmoogra oil in skin diseases, especially in leprosy. They use the oil both internally and externally.



FEDERATED SHOP CRAFTS, EAST ST. LOUIS, ILL., LABOR DAY, 1922



AGITATION FOR ANTI-STRIKE LEGISLATION



By GEORGE L. BERRY, President of the International Printing Pressmen and Assistants Union of North America, and National Vice Commander of the American Legion.

DURING the course of the lockout of the United Mine Workers of America and the Railroad Shopmen much has been said by politicians, newspapers and self-appointed representatives of the public's interest, with regard to the subject of anti-strike legislation.

A number of congressmen and senators—antagonistic to organized labor and without knowledge as to the practical requirements of industry and apparently without knowledge as to the human elements that enter in to the trades-union movement of America—have been loud in their insistence that the transportation act, which gave life and existence to the Railroad Labor Board, should be amended requiring that the decisions of the Railroad Labor Board be compulsory in character, and that the law should be so strengthened as to make it a penalty of imprisonment for violation of the rules of the Railroad Labor Board.

These men and the newspapers, who persist in this sort of talk, do not seem to realize that there is a very wide and radical difference between the railroads of America and the equipment thereon, and the hundreds of thousands of human beings who supply the human touch necessary for the operation of such railroads. It is the same old story that has been told many times before, but apparently everlastingly applicable, that there are human beings who do not seem to realize that the mental and physical efforts of human beings are not commodities or properties. It is a pathetic indictment upon the intelligence of those who would presume to hold that a law applying to crossties, box cars and steel rails could be made equally applicable to the conduct of human beings.

It is perfectly true that in instances of strikes involving men and women engaged in public utilities or industrial essentials, such as our means of transportation and supply of fuel that practically all of the rest of the people of the various communities are affected, even the men and women who are actually on strike and locked out. Therefore it follows that the disputes, making such a situation possible, become the concern of the whole of the population of our country. It is quite true that in such controversies the responsibility for their existence is too often laid upon the shoulders of the workers. The material things—the railroads, the mines and the capital necessary for their conduct—are not considered in a general

sense and the fact that they are not functioning is usually laid upon the shoulders of the workers—the human element—as the responsible party therefor. Too often we are prone to disregard the realities of the occasion and see purely surface indications. As a matter of fact in both the coal and the Railroad Shopmen's controversies the responsibility rests squarely upon the shoulders of the few men who own the industries, who supply the capital for the operation of the industries, but who possibly have never worked in the industries in question.

Notwithstanding all that may be said with regard to responsibility the fact remains that there is a community of interest in such industrial disputes upon the part of every man and woman within the affected sphere.

With all that has been said with regard to the proposition of enacting anti-strike legislation, to make compulsory employment, little or no analysis has been given as to who would profit by such legislation. The so-called public's chief interest, as claimed by the self-appointed apostles of the public's grievance, lies largely, if not entirely, in the proposition of being able to secure a continuous supply of the product of the mines and to be able to enjoy, uninterrupted, the best possible facilities for railroad transportation. As purely secondary interest comes the cost.

The United Mine Workers of America and the Railroad Shopmen's chief interest, and their only claim in the present controversies in which they are involved, is represented in their desire to work regularly and to receive a living wage with a balance to be set aside for adversities that come as a result of industry, sickness or old age.

Since it is true that the public's chief interest is in being served and since it is the desire of the workers to secure regular and profitable employment, as calculated by American standards, then the question may be asked, Why is there opposition to compulsory arbitration and compulsory employment? Such opposition can be summed up in the following manner:

First, Compulsory employment is a species of slavery if not in fact slavery.

Second, Compulsory employment is un-American and is in contravention to the purposes and the true interpretation of the Constitution of the Republic of the United States as well as the Declaration of Independence.

Third, Compulsory employment is in contravention to the whole spirit of the day; it is negative to progress, it is in opposition to the high ideals of Christianity, freedom and democracy as interpreted by the Constitution of the Republic.

Fourth, Compulsory employment is impracticable and unsound and constitutes an economic impossibility. Forced employment destroys the initiative and kills ambition; it is the process by which human minds and bodies are made mechanical in their operation and non-responsive to the higher ideals of civilization.

One of the most peculiar features of the agitation for anti-strike legislation has been the almost complete absence of the agitation for governmental ownership of the mines and railroads, and notwithstanding the fact that compulsory employment, by all of the rules, can be profitable to but one source, and that is the owners of the mines and railroads who are and have been responsible for the present and past controversies, yet there are those who still insist on anti-strike legislation.

The Government of the United States is supposed to be the institution of the people of the republic. It might follow that if the Government of the United States—that is to say all of the peoples including the miners and the railroad workers—owned the mines and railroads and the profits, over and above a respectable livelihood and a continuous employment for those engaged in the development thereof, should be returned to all of the people in the form of reduced costs, then there might be some justification for anti-strike legislation since the closing of these industries would be in fact against the interest of all the people of the republic, and since their continuous operation would be in fact in the interest of not a few persons, but in the interest of all of the people of the republic including those actually engaged in the operation of these industries.

For men who allege statemanship qualities, and many of them are compelled to acknowledge it themselves, to declare for anti-strike legislation, when such legislation would obviously be for the interest of some special interest, without coupling with anti-strike legislation Government ownership of the railroads, then it is not difficult for one to understand the motive actuating such so-called statemanship utterances.

The inconceivable aspect of this agitation is that there are men in Congress, there are newspapers in America, and there are politicians in various States of the union who are crying for anti-strike legislation to control the lives and aspirations of human beings, and who would be unalterably opposed to governmental ownership of the material things—the coal, the iron and the box cars—that enter into the operation of the mines and the railroads of America. It is time the people of this country began to realize the growing tendency,

which has not had its origin in the past few months but has been with us for some time, to subordinate the human being and to set on a pedestal the material things—properties and commodities of this country. It is a dangerous tendency, it is un-American and its growth will stifle the republic if it is permitted to continue. Many things have happened in America, as a result of this growing tendency of oppression against the people, that would have caused a small size revolution in the majority of the nations of the world. But the American people believe in the process of evolution and we shall continue to pursue such a course—the point is, however, that the evolutionary process in America for some time past has been reactionary instead of progressive and the reactionary interests have been the functioning influence and the progressives have been dormant and disinterested in the things that the passing of time has brought to us. An awakening that would bring about complete unity upon the part of every man and woman voter of America, as provided for under the Constitution, will be the abridgment of this reactionary influence to which reference has been made.

NOTICES

Anyone knowing the whereabouts of W. H. Tracy will confer a favor by communicating with L. F. Tracy, 954 E. Eleventh St., Jacksonville, Fla.

I would like to hear from Rags Hamll, Claude Eaton and Claude Morrow.

HARRY WARRINGTON,
Box 104, Cuba, Mo.

This is to advise the members that Local Union No. 224 has placed an assessment of \$100.00 against Brothers Harry Neighbors and Wilfred H. Morrow.

H. M. COOPER, R. S.,
Local Union No. 224, New Bedford, Mass.

Owing to the unsettled conditions in the trade in this city, and the large number of members unemployed, we herewith advise that it will be impossible to give the consideration to traveling card members that we would personally desire, until the above mentioned conditions improve.

(Signed) G. W. WHITFORD,
R. S., Local No. 3.

Anyone knowing the whereabouts of John Hamilton O'Toole, called "Pat" by friends, is requested to communicate "by wire or otherwise" with Mrs. Pat O'Toole, or J. P. O'Toole, 219 Hill St., San Antonio, Texas. Description of John Hamilton O'Toole is as follows: Age 30 years; weight about 175 pounds; height about 5 ft. 8 in.; slightly red-faced and inclined to be bald front and center of head. Follows telephone construction and toll line work; occasionally doing structural iron when no telephone work is available.

It is very important that above named person be located.

ELECT PROGRESSIVES

For the past two years organized labor has fought for its very existence and has made many sacrifices to defend reasonable wages and just working conditions.

Labor has been and still is opposed by a combination of allies, composed of the United States Chamber of Commerce, various employers' associations, hostile courts and an antagonistic and oppressive National Administration, supported by a reactionary Congress.

The election next month provides the workers an opportunity of very materially strengthening their lines of defense and of removing at least one element of opposition. The workers can, if they will, prevent the return to the national law-making body of reactionaries, men possessing no sympathy for or interest in the welfare of the mass of people.

The following list of Congressmen and Senators are not entitled to the support of progressive-minded citizens and labor should do all possible to prevent their return to the United States Congress:

ALABAMA

Congressman Henry B. Steagall, Third District, Ozark.

CALIFORNIA

Congressman Julius Kahn, Fourth District, San Francisco.
Congressman Arthur M. Free, Eighth District, San Jose.

CONNECTICUT

Senator George P. McLean, Simsbury.
Congressman John Q. Tilson, Third District, New Haven.
Congressman Schuyler Merritt, Fourth District, Stamford.

COLORADO

Congressman Charles B. Timberlake, Second District, Sterling.

DELAWARE

Senator T. Coleman du Pont, Wilmington.
Congressman Caleb R. Layton (at large), Georgetown.

FLORIDA

Congressman Frank Clark, Second District, Gainesville.

IDAHO

Congressman Burton L. French, First District, Moscow.

IOWA

Congressman Gilbert N. Haugen, Fourth District, Northwood.

ILLINOIS

Congressman Martin B. Madden, First District, Chicago.
Congressman James R. Mann, Second District, Chicago.
Congressman Fred A. Britten, Ninth District, Chicago.
Congressman Carl R. Chindblom, Tenth District, Chicago.
Congressman Ira C. Copley, Eleventh District, Aurora.
Congressman Guy L. Shaw, Twentieth District, Beardstown.

INDIANA

Congressman Merrill Moores, Seventh District, Indianapolis.
Congressman William R. Wood, Tenth District, Lafayette.

KANSAS

Congressman Daniel R. Anthony, Jr., First District, Leavenworth.
Congressman Homer Hoch, Fourth District, Marion.
Congressman James G. Strong, Fifth District, Blue Rapids.

KENTUCKY

Congressman John W. Langley, Tenth District, Pikeville.

MASSACHUSETTS

Senator Henry Cabot Lodge, Nahant.
Congressman Allen T. Treadway, First District, Stockbridge.
Congressman Frederick H. Gillett, Second District, Springfield.
Congressman Samuel E. Winslow, Fourth District, Worcester.
Congressman Charles L. Underhill, Ninth District, Somerville.
Congressman Robert Luce, Thirteenth District, Waltham.

MARYLAND

Senator Joseph I. France, Port Deposit.

MICHIGAN

Senator Charles E. Townsend, Jackson.
Congressman Louis C. Cramton, Seventh District, Lapeer.
Congressman Joseph W. Fordney, Eighth District, Saginaw, W. S.
Congressman Frank D. Scott, Eleventh District, Alpena.

MINNESOTA

Senator Frank B. Kellogg, St. Paul.
Congressman Halvor Steenerson, Ninth District, Crookston.

MISSOURI

Congressman William O. Atkeson, Sixth District, Butler.
 Congressman Theodore W. Hukriede, Ninth District, Warrenton.
 Congressman Leonidas C. Dyer, Twelfth District, St. Louis.

MISSISSIPPI

Congressman Benjamin G. Humphreys, Third District, Greenville.

MONTANA

Senator Henry L. Myers, Hamilton.

NEW HAMPSHIRE

Congressman Sherman E. Burroughs, First District, Manchester.
 Congressman Edward H. Wason, Second District, Nashua.

NEW JERSEY

Senator Joseph S. Frelinghuysen, Raritan.
 Congressman Isaac Bacharach, Second District, Atlantic City.
 Congressman Ernest R. Ackerman, Fifth District, Plainfield.

NEW YORK

Congressman Ogden L. Mills, Seventeenth District, New York City.
 Congressman Walter M. Chandler, Nineteenth District, New York City.
 Congressman Luther M. Mott, Thirty-Second District, Oswego.
 Congressman S. Wallace Dempsey, Fortieth District, Lockport.
 Congressman Daniel A. Reed, Forty-third District, Dunkirk.

NORTH DAKOTA

Congressman Olger B. Burtness, First District, Grand Forks.

OHIO

Senator Atlee Pomerene and Senator Simon D. Fess—both reactionaries—Pomerene most favorable.
 Congressman Nicholas Longworth, First District, Cincinnati.
 Congressman Theodore E. Burton, Twenty-Second District, Cleveland.

OREGON

Congressman Willis C. Hawley, First District, Salem.

PENNSYLVANIA

Congressman William S. Vare, First District, Philadelphia.
 Congressman George S. Graham, Second District, Philadelphia.
 Congressman George W. Edmonds, Fourth District, Philadelphia.
 Congressman Thomas S. Butler, Seventh District, West Chester.
 Congressman Stephen G. Porter, Twenty-Ninth District, Pittsburgh.

RHODE ISLAND

Congressman Walter R. Stiness, Second District, Cowesett.

TENNESSEE

Congressman Finis J. Garrett, Ninth District, Dresden.

TEXAS

Congressman Eugene Black, First District, Clarksville.
 Congressman Sam Rayburn, Fourth District, Bonham.
 Congressman Tom Connally, Eleventh District, Marlin.
 Congressman John N. Garner, Fifteenth District, Uvalde.
 Congressman Thomas L. Blanton, Seventeenth District, Abilene.

VERMONT

Congressman Frank L. Greene, First District, St. Albans.

VIRGINIA

Congressman James P. Woods, Sixth District, Roanoke.
 Congressman R. Walton Moore, Eighth District, Fairfax.
 Congressman C. Bascom Slemp, Ninth District, Big Stone Gap.

WASHINGTON

Senator Miles Poindexter, Spokane.
 Congressman J. Stanley Webster, Fifth District, Spokane.

WEST VIRGINIA

Senator Howard Sutherland, Elkins.
 Congressman Wells Goodykoontz, Fifth District, Williamson.
 Congressman Leonard S. Echols, Sixth District, Charleston.

WISCONSIN

Congressman William H. Stafford, Fifth District, Milwaukee.

WYOMING

Congressman Frank W. Mondell (at large), Newcastle.
 (Candidate for Senator)

PILES DON'T BE CUT
 Until You Try This
 Wonderful Treatment

My internal method of treatment is the correct one, and is sanctioned by the best informed physicians and surgeons. Ointments, salves and other local applications give only temporary relief.

If you have piles in any form write for a **FREE** sample of *Page's Pile Tablets* and you will bless the day that you read this. **Write today.**

E. R. Page 307-B Page Bldg., Marshall, Mich.



COOPERATIVE NEWS



COOPERATIVE BANK NOW ORGANIZING IN PITTSBURGH

WITH the improvement of the industrial situation, members of the Big Four Brotherhoods in the Pittsburgh district are shaping plans for a vigorous campaign to complete the organization of the Brotherhood Savings and Trust Company in the steel city.

The organization campaign for the new Brotherhood Cooperative Bank is being conducted by a committee of fourteen labor representatives from as many different unions. The organization work was started some months ago at a great mass meeting in Pittsburgh addressed by Manager Walter F. McCaleb of the B. of L. E. Cooperative National Bank of Cleveland, and United States Congressman W. J. Burke, a member of the Order of Railway Conductors. Although no active campaign has so far been conducted, the organizing committee has already sold \$5,000 worth of stock out of the total capital of \$500,000 and \$20,000 surplus. Pending

the organization of the bank, the funds are being deposited in the B. of L. E. Cooperative National Bank of Cleveland.

Members of the Railway Brotherhoods of Pittsburgh have already petitioned the Pennsylvania State banking commissioner for a trust company charter, and intend to apply for membership in the Federal reserve system upon organization. While a general savings and commercial business will be done, it is planned to make the trust department one of the principal features of the bank, to aid workers in the investment of their savings and to act as trustees for them in the execution of their wills and the handling of their estates. The organizers of the Brotherhood Savings and Trust Company are being aided and advised by the All-American Cooperative Commission of Cleveland and the officers of the B. of L. E. Cooperative National Bank of that city.

NORWEGIAN COOPERATORS REPORT REMARKABLE PROGRESS

Despite the severe industrial depression in northern Europe, the achievements of the Norwegian cooperative movement during the past year, reported at its recent national cooperative congress, indicate a remarkable expansion, both of cooperative banking and consumers' cooperative stores.

The two national cooperative bodies in Norway, the Samvirkecentralen, composed of agricultural cooperatives, and the Norges Kooperativ Landsforening, founded by the city workers and consumers, now cover over 3,000 local cooperatives with a membership in excess of 130,000 heads of families, reaching nearly half the entire population of the country.

The financial report of the Norwegian Cooperative Union's Wholesale Society shows annual business in excess of 21,000,000

crowns, backed by a reserve fund of 500,000 crowns and a banking department with deposits in excess of 3,000,000 crowns.

In addition to this large wholesale business, the Norwegian cooperators' retail societies report an annual turnover of 116,000,000 crowns, on which a saving of 13,000,000 crowns, or 11.37 per cent was made for the cooperators.

In addition to their stores and banks, the Norsk cooperators conduct a thriving insurance company, Samvirke, founded in January, 1922. It writes fire, marine, burglary and liability insurance, and has opened agencies in connection with the cooperative banks throughout Norway. The cooperators also own 71 factories, making their own boots and shoes, meat products, flour, butter, clothing and knit goods.

FARMERS SAVE \$100,000 COOPERATIVELY

The annual convention of the Farmers' Union of Oklahoma, just concluded in Oklahoma City, reports that the Farmers' Union Cooperative State Exchange saved over \$100,000 on merchandise purchased for the farmers of the State, including \$45,000 on binding twine, \$30,000 on coal and \$20,000 on merchandise and food. Further savings were also made through the many cooper-

ative stores, mills and elevators maintained by local farmers' unions.

The Oklahoma Farmers' Union reports a membership of 35,000. Similar organizations exist in 25 other States, comprising 20,000 local unions, each of which is a center for cooperative education and the promotion of cooperative enterprises.



MISCELLANEOUS



SYSTEM COUNCIL NO. 3

GEO. W. WOOMER

OCTOBER FIRST finds some very marked changes in the railroad shopmen's strike. A plan for settling the seniority question, on which the railroads as a whole refused to yield, was negotiated by President Jewell, of the Railroad Employees Department, and members of the executive council directly with representatives of a number of roads. This plan was approved by the national conference committee in session September 11, 12 and 13, and has been the means of returning the men to work on a great many roads. Conferences are being held on a number of other roads in an effort to have them settle on the same basis. It is believed that within thirty days at least 75 per cent of the railroad mileage will have agreed to the plan and have the men at work.

Financing the strike was one of the biggest questions to be considered by the national committee, and they decided to place an assessment on all men returning to work under the present plan of two days' pay per month, payable each pay day. With the number of men returning to work and the number of those working from roads that do not settle it is believed that this assessment will provide sufficient funds to carry on the strike on any road that does not want to grant our terms.

On the Pennsylvania System the fight is still on and from recent developments will continue for some time. Atterbury has admitted that conditions are not what his propagandists say they are. Shortly after the roads signatory to the basis of settlement returned their men to work, President Jewell secured a conference with Atterbury and finding that he wanted to discuss the matter at issue on the Pennsylvania System, namely, the company union and rump committees, before discussing the return of the men on strike they arranged another meeting for September 25.

At the conference of September 25 President Good, of System Federation No. 90, accompanied President Jewell and the matter of representation was discussed from all angles. Atterbury was forced to admit that his plan did not provide real representation, also that representatives paid by the company could not properly represent the employees, and that if the employees would attempt to pay the representatives as provided by his plan that it would be a heavy burden, much more than their present dues to their organization. Methods of correcting these faults were discussed and after getting Atter-

bury's ideas on the matter a further conference was arranged for September 29.

The executive board of System Federation No. 90 agreed that a plan might be adopted of selecting local committees whereby members and non-members could vote without receding from the principles of our organization. The matter of all representation above the local committees to be handled by the local chairmen so elected. The employees to have charge of the entire election as provided in Decision 218. The only consideration given any matter was on the basis of returning all men to their former positions with all rights unimpaired.

The conference of September 29 between President Jewell, Vice President Anderson of the Machinists, President Good of the System Federation and representatives of the Pennsylvania System didn't bring any results. A conference later that day with Atterbury which lasted several hours was closed with no results and no further date set.

After discussing the plan of organization desired by Atterbury and the plan of our organization and being unable to reconcile the two views, the matter of returning the strikers was discussed. He insisted that he would only take back such men as could be controlled and which would assure the success of his plan in any future election, union men being barred. He would pick out the men he wanted. As all negotiations were based upon the return of all men this attitude of Atterbury naturally closed the door to any further discussion.

The whole matter is now up to the 33,000 men on strike. If they are as determined to win this fight now as they were when they walked out of the shops there will be no question of the final outcome. The strike has been effective and indications are that it is becoming more so every day. Regular passenger trains are being moved with freight engines; yard crews are being laid off on account of no engines; delays and failures are becoming more frequent; an embargo has been placed on most all freight except perishable and coal; the number of cars and engines awaiting heavy repairs are steadily increasing; coal mines are working short time on account of car shortage. All of these things testify to the effectiveness of the strike. A number of Pennsylvania strikers have been put to work on other roads that have settled and many others are expected to be placed within the next few weeks.

We believe that even Atterbury will get enough of this die-hard policy and will be ready to do business when he finds that the

shopmen on the Pennsylvania are not going to be satisfied with less than is granted on other roads. CONTINUE THE FIGHT.

THE TRUTH ABOUT WORK IN FLORIDA

If you contemplate spending the winter season in Florida, with the intention of earning your expenses while there, you should inform yourself concerning work and working conditions in this State. If you come here without doing so you may soon find yourself in the deplorable condition that many others are now in. Without work, or means to live, and of course without funds to leave the place.

This is not merely the opinion or view of one person or any one group of persons, but is the expressed sentiment of all honest and well-informed people. Read this excerpt from a publication issued by the Tampa Board of Trade:

"We desire to be honest with those who are looking for positions—stenographers, bookkeepers, civil engineers, mechanics, laboring men, in fact, all salaried people. Do not come to Tampa without you have the assurance of a job before coming, and remember the Board of Trade cannot essay to secure you a position or act as your agent in nego-

tiating with business men or manufacturers.

"Tampa is a semi-tropical, semi-health resort city, and like cities of that class we have hundreds upon hundreds of strangers with us seeking salaried jobs who come on their own volition. Some come to escape the rigorous winters of the north, others on advice of physicians, and some with spirit of the wanderlust. But they come, and it is a long ways back home. There is plenty of work here and the city is growing, but remember that this city is peopled mostly by those from the north and when an employee knows of a vacancy in his firm he has a friend where he came from whom he recommends for the place. That's the condition. You will find it any place, but you will not find another Board of Trade honest enough to advise you for your best interests."

Those who are desirous of obtaining further information can get same by addressing Mr. J. E. Ellis, P. O. Box 662, Tampa, Florida.

HAND-CARVING VS. COMPOSITION

The Union Woodcarvers of the United States need the help of all organized labor's co-operation in combatting the "Composition Ornament Evil." They wish to urge union men to buy hand-carving. Hence, they ask all union members when purchasing furniture, pianos, phonographs, etc., to be sure that it is strictly hand-carved.

Hand-carving is invariably union made.

Composition-carving is unfailingly non-union made.

So when union men purchase furniture they should be careful and discriminating by

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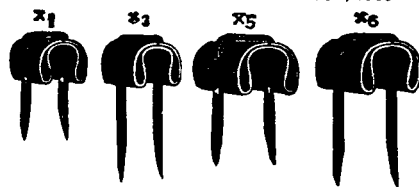
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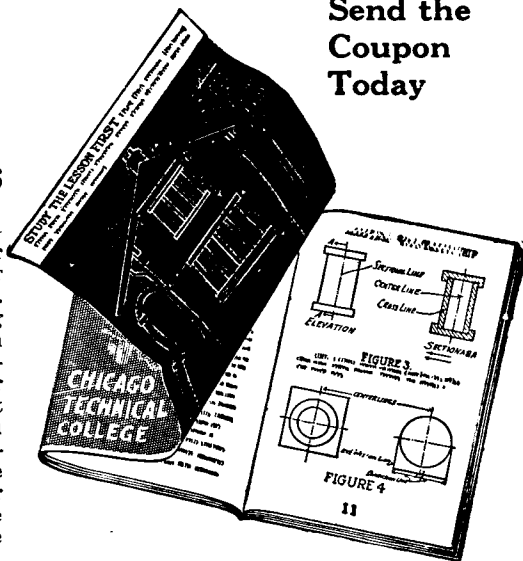


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